Sampark Kranti trains

2686. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has announced to start Sampark Kranti trains connecting Delhi to every State Capital in the last budget;

(b) if so, how many Sampark Kranti trains have started operating, so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that majority of the Sampark routes are delayed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the Sampark Kranti trains to all State Capitals would be operationalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) All the 19 pairs of Sampark Kranti trains announced have been introduced.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Train halt at Laksar

†2687. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the mail/express trains which have been ordered to halt for the transportation facility of the people affected by Tehri Dam rehabilitated in large number near Laksar in the State of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken for providing railway facilities in the hilly States like Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) At present 8 Mail/Express trains are available ex Dehradun/Haridwar for the passengers desiring to travel to Laksar. In addition to this, 5 passenger and 1 Mail/Express trains are available ex Rishikesh to Haridwar.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.